

Senior Spotlight 2021-22



Colton Lee Cooper

First generation college student finds his passion within the ag industry Purdue while making great connections and lifelong friendships.

Hometown: Sheridan, IN

Major & Concentration: Agribusiness with a concentration in Agrimarketing

Minor: Animal Sciences and Entrepreneurship Certificate

Why did you come to Purdue: If I'm being honest, I didn't want to come to Purdue. I didn't want to be the typical Ag kid from Indiana that goes to Purdue. After completing 3 years at Purdue, I am very thankful I decided to come here because of all the friends I have met and opportunities I have been giving.

Favorite Purdue tradition: Den Pops and all the chants for basketball and football games!

Top three influences at Purdue (people, ideas, experiences):

1. Amy Jones (Marwood House Advisor), for always being so encouraging in anything I did and being someone, I could always talk to!
2. My friends
3. Tyler Trent

Top five memories of your time at Purdue:

1. Getting to rush the field after Purdue beat Ohio State in football
2. Packing meals for Hammer Down Hunger
3. Showing in the Block & Bridle Royal my freshman year
4. Standing in the Paint Crew and seeing the Boilers upset Virginia
5. Tailgating with friends and family

Places you have been as a Purdue student: I regret not doing Study Abroad earlier on because COVID took away my chances to do it now. However, Purdue has taken me to many different leadership conferences with my cooperative house and to many great companies that I got to intern for and tour.

Favorite club/organization: Purdue Block and Bridle or Marwood Cooperative



Favorite Student-led event/initiative: Ag Week, it is a week to celebrate something I am very passionate about.

Favorite Purdue event: Football family weekend

Favorite Social Activity: Cooperative Week

Favorite place to study: Hicks Library

Favorite spot on campus: Memorial mall when campus is busy!

Favorite thing about CoA: My favorite thing about the College of Ag is how it is so family oriented and the people within the college of ag actually care and want to see you succeed as a student and in a career.

Favorite thing about your major: My favorite thing about my major is how broad it is. Coming into college I wasn't really sure what I wanted to do, but I knew I wanted to be in the ag industry. Majoring in ag business really keeps my options open in terms of what I want to do in the industry.

Favorite class: AGEC 331 Ready, Set, Sell

Favorite professor: Dr. Eales

Coolest project: I would say the coolest project I experienced was the sales project in 331. It allowed me to learn more about the process of sales while having fun with it.



Three biggest accomplishments:

1. Being named Leader on the Rise in the cooperative system
2. Becoming a member of Marwood Cooperative and later serving as the Vice President.
3. Internship with Belstra Milling Company

Things on your resume not listed above:

Serving as the President of the Team Purebred National Junior Board, Completing an Externship with the Maschhoffs, Attendee of the first Indiana Pork Young Professionals Conference

Where do you want to end up: I don't really know where I'd like to end up. I am up for moving anywhere but would like to eventually move back to central Indiana.

Advice for underclassman: Live in the moment, you don't think 4 years will go by fast, but they are the fastest 4 years of your life. Also go to every networking event connections are key!

Biggest takeaway from Purdue: My biggest takeaway from Purdue is that it isn't all about earning a degree, it's about the connections and leadership skills you learn with your time at Purdue. The friends I have made and the leadership skills I have gained will last me a lifetime! BOILER UP!

